

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

May 10, 2005

In accordance with the Department of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) goal of reducing its reliance on detention of children as a means of ensuring child safety, today we have before us a request to amend existing county contracts with Community Family Preservation Network (CFPN) providers to allow for the provision of Alternative Response Services (ARS) to families. Historically, DCFS referred only those families to community-based Family Preservation services for whom DCFS had determined that allegations of child abuse/neglect were "substantiated." Currently, through the ARS program of early intervention Family Preservation services, DCFS will refer those families who may be experiencing difficulties in family functioning to receive community-based Family Preservation services, rather than DCFS supervision, after DCFS determines that specific allegations of suspected child abuse/neglect are "inconclusive."

The goal of providing these community-based services is the prevention of future reports of child abuse/neglect and/or DCFS case openings.

- M O R E -

MOTION

BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
MOLINA	_____

Since county and community partnerships are the cornerstone for effective strengthening of the families we serve, I am interested in the outcomes of this model approach.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE, that the Board of Supervisors directs the Department of Children and Family Services to report to the Board within one year on the outcomes of the ARS program, specifically on the number of families referred to ARS; as well as on the rate of future reports of child abuse/neglect and DCFS case openings for those families who completed the ARS program.

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